

REMARKS

First, Applicants thank the Examiner for discussing this case with Applicants' representatives. A Statement of Summary of Interview is enclosed herewith.

Claims 1-9 are all the claims pending in the present application. The Examiner maintains the prior art rejections similar to those set forth in the previous Office Action. Specifically, claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-9 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1-9 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written descriptions requirement. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1-3 and 9 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Menzies et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,748) in view of "Official Notice." Claim 4 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Menzies and "Official Notice", and in view of Skog et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,650). Claims 5 and 6 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Menzies in view of Collin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,687,761), and "Official Notice." Finally, claims 7 and 8 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Menzies and "Official Notice," and in view of Fiszmann et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,115,646).

§ 101 Rejections – Claims 1-9

The Examiner rejects claims 1-9 based on the reasons set forth on pages 3-4 of the present Office Action.

The Examiner alleges that the application fails to define "assigning." In response, Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that assign can mean, for

example, to ascribe or attribute to, and that this meaning would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art.

Further, the Examiner alleges that “assigning” fails to produce a concrete and tangible result. In response, Applicants submit that MPEP § 2106 specifies that if a result has real world practical/application use, then the result is useful, tangible, and/or concrete. Here, the results of the claimed method include: 1) assigning to a father object in a process, for each of one or more son objects, information corresponding to a physical address when at least one of said each of one or more son objects is contained in a same process, or 2) assigning to a father object in the process, for each of one or more son objects, information referring back to said central directory when another at least one of said each of one or more son objects is not contained in the same process. The above-discussed operations of claim 1 are implementable in a practical/useful way, and thus the operations reflect results that are useful, tangible, and/or concrete. Therefore, at least based on the spirit and mandate of MPEP § 2106, Applicants submit that the claimed invention provide a concrete and tangible result.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 1-9 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

§ 112, first paragraph, Rejections – Claims 1-9

Applicants submit that claims 1-9 satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner substantially maintains the same rational as set forth previously for rejecting the pending claims. Applicants maintain the previously submitted arguments regarding the patentability of claims 1-9 over the applied references.

Applicants believe that the clarifying claim amendments¹ set forth herein further set forth the novel features of the claimed invention.

At least based on the foregoing as well as the arguments set forth in the previous Amendment, Applicants maintain that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over the applied references.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

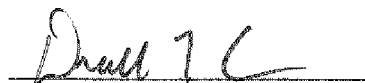
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¹ Applicants submit that the claim amendments should be entered as they do not require any further search and/or consideration. The claim amendments are simply made for clarifying purposes.